



## SHELBY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

814 Jefferson Ave.  
Memphis, Tennessee 38105

For More Information Contact:  
Public Relations: (901) 222-8216  
Cell: (901) 270-7179

### MONITORED OZONE EXCEEDANCE “CODE ORANGE OZONE ADVISORY” “UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS”

**Friday, June 29, 2012**

For Immediate Release as of 3:30 PM:

Friday, June 29, 2012

Memphis, TN. –In cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ); the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH); and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Shelby County Health Department has issued a **“CODE ORANGE” OZONE ADVISORY**, due to a monitored exceedance of the 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone **for the Memphis Metropolitan Area**. The Memphis Metropolitan Area includes Shelby County, Tennessee, Crittenden County, Arkansas, and DeSoto County, Mississippi. The afternoon levels of ozone exceeded the eight-hour NAAQS at the Shelby Farms monitor in Shelby County, TN. Under existing Air Quality Index guidelines, current air quality throughout the Memphis Metropolitan Area has become **“Unhealthy For Sensitive Groups”** and is expected to remain so until after sunset this evening. *Pollution emissions, a stagnant atmosphere, clear skies, and high temperatures* are the primary factors responsible for this afternoon’s poor air quality. Since Code Orange was forecasted today, **MATA bus and trolley fares ARE discounted to 25-cents today.**

#### Health Precautions:

- **For Active Children and Adults**
- **For Persons With Respiratory Difficulties**
- Limit prolonged outdoor activities during afternoon hours
- High ozone levels can cause nose, eye, throat, and lung irritation
- High ozone levels can aggravate existing conditions and lead to increased potential for illness in this sensitive group

#### OZONE REDUCTION TIPS RECOMMENDED DURING

#### **“CODE ORANGE OZONE ADVISORIES”**

- Refuel cars and lawnmowers after 7:00 pm, avoid spills and do not “top off” tanks
- Carpool or mass transit
- Combine errands instead of many separate trips
- Drive less, especially during peak hours or hot days

-MORE-

**For more information concerning air quality, contact the following sources:**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Memphis and Shelby County  
Health Department

The Shelby County Health Department-Pollution

Control, (901) 222-9599

<http://www.midsouthcleanair.org/>



State of Arkansas  
Department of Environmental Quality

*"To protect, enhance and restore the natural environment for the well-being of all Arkansans."*

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality-Planning and Air Quality Analysis Branch-Air  
Division, (501) 682-0767

<http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/air/default.htm>



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF

**Health**

*Keeping Your Hometown Healthy*

The Arkansas Department of Health (501) 661-2000

<http://www.healthyarkansas.com/environment/environment.html>



Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality-Air Standards and Planning-Air Quality,  
(601) 961-5134

[http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/Air\\_Ozone?OpenDocument](http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/Air_Ozone?OpenDocument)

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